

Fielden B. Nutter, Jr.
WB8PAG
5 Second Ave.
Kitty Hawk, NC 27949

May 1, 1995

The Secretary
Federal Communications Commission
Washington, DC 20554

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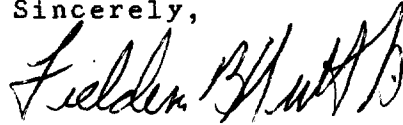
FCC MAIL ROOM

Re: RM-8626

Dear Sir or Madame:

Please find enclosed six copies of a response to
Petition Number RM-8626.

Sincerely,



Fielden B. Nutter, Jr.
WB8PAG

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FEDERAL COMMUNICATIONS COMMISSION

Washington, DC 20554

In the Matter of)

Amendment of Section)

97.111 (b) (5) and (6))

RM-8626 FCC MAIL ROOM

MAY 02 1995

I was licensed as a Novice Class Amateur in late 1969 or early 1970 as WN8HEI. I let that license expire and was again licensed as a Technician Class Amateur in 1973 as WB8PAG. I upgraded my current license to Advanced Class in 1992. At the same time my wife was licensed as a Technician Class Amateur.

On each occasion that I was either initially licensed or I upgraded, the MORSE CODE PRACTICE SESSIONS, transmitted ONE-WAY by the American Radio Relay League's station W1AW were invaluable to me in either learning Morse Code or in increasing my code proficiency. In all of my Morse Code learning experiences, I tried other methods, namely; The Instructograph, Code Practice Records and Tapes, having other Amateurs send code to me, and since the advent of the personal computer, several different Morse Code programs. None of the afore mentioned methods worked except some small improvement in my Morse Code proficiency with the computer programs. I credit, primarily, the ONE-WAY MORSE CODE PRACTICE SESSIONS transmitted by W1AW with my being an Advanced Class Amateur.

My wife is currently working to upgrade her license to a Technician Plus Class or General Class. She has made the most improvement in her proficiency in Morse Code by listening to the ONE-WAY MORSE CODE PRACTICE SESSIONS transmitted by W1AW.

There are many other clubs and VE groups that transmit in the amateur bands below 30 MHz, ONE-WAY MORSE CODE PRACTICE SESSIONS for the benefit of others who want to learn the code or need to improve their proficiency to upgrade their licenses.

I frequently listen to the bulletins transmitted ONE-WAY by W1AW or other ARRL Official Bulletin Stations. These bulletins are very important in keeping amateurs informed in the event of natural or man-made disasters and are necessary to request "clear frequencies" during these emergencies.

Additionally I find the ONE-WAY RE-TRANSMISSIONS by WA3NAN, the Amateur Radio Club Station of the Goddard Space Flight Center in Maryland, of the audio from the Space Shuttles is very educational and without their ONE-WAY transmission of the Keplerian Orbital Element Sets it would be very difficult, if not impossible to track the Shuttles in order to communicate with the astronaut hams via SAREX.

The ONE-WAY transmission of regular training bulletins, official notices(as mentioned above) from the FCC and other matters pertaining to disaster communications are an essential function of these transmissions. A very tragic case in point is the bombing of the Federal Building in Oklahoma City just last week. A request for the observance of "clear frequencies" and other essential information was quickly and accurately transmitted to amateurs at no expense to the Government of the United States, which by the way already had its hands full, by the ARRL's Station, W1AW.

I could orate for many pages concerning the benefits of ONE-WAY TRANSMISSIONS on the Amateur Bands below 30 MHz, but I will not. I come to the point of my response to Mr. Fredrick O. Maia, W5YI's request to amend Part 97 of the FCC Regulations.

It is clear to me that Mr. Maia is attempting to protect his Commercial interests in Amateur Radio. He, the petitioner has a very strong financial interest in the passage of this petition. His commercial interests include the operation of the largest Volunteer Examination Coordinators in the country which not only the publication and distribution of study and exam preparation books but of Morse Code Practice Tape Recordings. The sale of these Morse Code Tapes, he feels is threatened by the ONE-WAY TRANSMISSION OF MORSE CODE PRACTICE SESSIONS by the ARRL's station, W1AW and other dedicated Amateurs, in order for them to learn the Morse Code to obtain an Amateur License. Mr. Maia also publishes for sale the monthly newsletter "The W5YI Report" and offers a "service" for the fee of \$5.00 for the renewal of amateur radio licenses. Mr. Maia is in the position, even to a casual observer, to profit greatly from the acceptance of his petition.

The American Radio Relay League, a Tax-exempt, non-profit association, is involved in many of the same activities as Mr. Maia, except they do not charge a fee for sending FCC amateur license renewal forms and information.

My wife and I respectfully request that the Commission reject the petition of Mr. Maia.

Sincerely,

Fielden B. Nutter, Jr.
Virginia R. Nutter

Fielden B. Nutter, Jr., WB8PAG
Virginia R. Nutter, KD4UFE